Compensation to the Sufferers of Epidemics

2327. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to compensate poorer sections of people who are ravaged by malaria and other epidemics caused by failure of Government;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) what responsibility will be placed on local health departments to insure poorer sections from diseases inflicted on them; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to start a compensatory scheme for poorer people; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) For controlling Malaria, Central Govt. provides assistance to the State Govts. on 50:50 sharing basis between the Centre and the States under the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP). 100% Central assistance to the seven North-Eastern States is being provided from December, 1994.

(c) Health is a State subject. Concerned State Health authorities are required to take appropriate action.

(d) There is no such proposal.

Quality of Vaccines in Bihar

2328. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cold chain system in transporting the Vital Vaccines from the point of manufacture to the point of actual use in the State of Bihar is not fool proof because of erratic power supply and inadequate maintenance staff resulting in vaccines losing their potency and becoming ineffective;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take to ensure that vaccines which are administered to children for immunisation do not lose their potency in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The cold chain system in transporting the vital vaccines from the point of manufacture to the point of use throughout the country including the state of Bihar is being maintained. The breakdown rate of the cold chain equipment reported from Bihar is 3.81% as on 31.5.95 as against the national average of 1.63%.

(c) Central Govt. has already replaced all the equipment required for vaccine storage reported as beyond repair by state Govt. of Bihar. The spare parts, cash assistance for cold chain maintenance and also salary support for refrigerator mechanics at the rate of one mechanic per districts is also provided by Central Govt.

Primary Health and Family Planning Centres in Gujarat

2329. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health and Family Planning Centres in each District of Gujarat State during 1994-95 and as on date;

(b) the funds provided by Government to the State during the period for this purpose;

(c) the number of Rural/Tribal people covered in each of the district of the State; and